

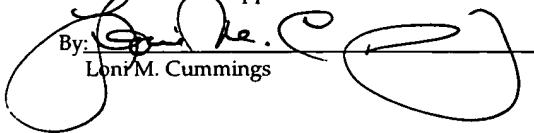
JENS E. HOEKENDIJK
P.O. Box 4787
Burlingame, CA 94011-4787
(415) 412-3322

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 CFR §1.53(b) is the divisional patent application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/416,309 filed October 19, 1999.

Inventor(s): HANSON S. GIFFORD, III; IVAN SEPETKA; MARK E. DEEM; ALLAN R. WILL; MARTIN S. DIECK and SUNMI CHEW.

For: **METHODS AND DEVICES FOR PROTECTING A PASSAGEWAY IN A BODY WHEN ADVANCING DEVICES THROUGH THE PASSAGEWAY**

Application Elements:

- Specification (28 pages); 67 claims on pages 18-27; Abstract of the disclosure.
- Twenty-six (26) sheets of formal drawings.
- Preliminary Amendment.
- Declaration.
- Copy of Revocation & Power of Attorney from prior application.
- Copy of Change of Correspondence Address.

**APPLICANT REQUESTS DEFERRAL OF THE FILING FEE
UNTIL SUBMISSION OF THE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION.**

DO NOT CHARGE THE FILING FEE AT THIS TIME

Respectfully submitted,


Jens E. Hoekendijk, Reg. No. 37,149
Attorney for Applicant

Telephone: (415) 412-3322
Facsimile: (650) 685-9208